



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

March 10, 2015

TO: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe

FROM: Russ Guiney
Director

SUBJECT: **CLARIFICATION OF PROCESS TO AWARD EXCESS FUNDS**

The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify the mechanism by which your Board allocates available Excess Funds to projects. It is the District's intent to implement minor and allowable changes in an effort to streamline the process.

As background, Section 24 of the 1996 Proposition (Section 24) divides the Excess Funds available for capital projects and prescribes that the funds be distributed as follows: 45% (Specified Excess Funds) for five regionally-significant projects which received line-item allocations in the 1996 Proposition (Mountains Canyons and Foothills, Ballona Creek, Baldwin Hills, Los Angeles River and Tributaries, Puente Hills Wildlife Corridor, and collectively known as the "Big Five"); 10% be expended on competitive grants; and the remaining 45% of the funds be divided equally between Cities (22.5%) and County (22.5%) projects.

Your Board has been awarding grants of Excess Funds to a variety of recipients on the merit of their respective projects over the years. However, it has been your Board's practice to allocate County Excess Funds to County Departments, Cities Excess Funds to incorporated cities, and Specified Excess Funds to the recipients of the line-item allocations identified in the 1996 Proposition for the Big Five projects.¹ When your Board has awarded Excess Funds grants to other applicants, the practice has been that funds were first allocated to a County Department, incorporated city, or Big Five line-item recipients, who in turn have assigned the right to apply for the funds to the applicants.

¹ The recipients of the line-item allocations identified in the 1996 Proposition for the Big Five projects are as follows:

Mountains, Canyons and Foothills (3.d.)
Ballona Creek (3.b.9.)
Los Angeles River and Tributaries (3.b.9.)
Baldwin Hills (3.b.2.)
Puente Hills Wildlife Corridor (3.b.14.)

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation
Wildlife Corridor Conservation Authority

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This administrative process being followed in awarding Excess Funds grants has proven to be cumbersome. To streamline the process, it is hereby clarified that your Board has the authority under the 1996 Proposition to award Excess Funds to eligible grantees for eligible projects at its sole discretion, and that your Board may allocate and award Excess Funds to grantees regardless of the type of Excess Funds and without the need for resolutions, from either your Board acting as the Board of Supervisors or from outside agencies, assigning the right to apply for Excess Funds.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Jane I. Beesley, Administrator of the Regional Park and Open Space District at (213) 738-2981.

RG:JB:WRO:tb

c: Chief Executive Office (S. Hamai)
County Counsel (C. Salseda)
Parks Deputies (T. Villegas, K. Katona, M. Chong-Castillo, E. Stibal, S. Nemer)
Regional Park and Open Space District (J. Beesley)